Monday November 28, 2022

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Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks during a news conference at the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Aug. 18, 2022.

(Amy Beth Bennett/South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP, File)

## New state voter fraud units finding few cases from midterms

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — State-level law enforcement units created after the 2020 presidential election to investigate voter fraud are looking into scattered complaints more than two weeks after the midterms but have provided no indication of systemic problems. That's just what election experts had expected and led critics to suggest that the new units were more about politics than rooting out widespread abuses. Most election-related fraud cases already are investigated and prosecuted at the local level.

Florida, Georgia and Virginia created spe-

cial state-level units after the 2020 election, all pushed by Republican governors, attorneys general or legislatures.

"I am not aware of any significant detection of fraud on Election Day, but that's not surprising," said Paul Smith, senior vice president of the Campaign Legal Center. "The whole concept of voter impersonation fraud is such a horribly exaggerated problem. It doesn't change the outcome of the election, it's a felony, you risk getting put in jail and you have a high possibility of getting caught. It's a rare phenomena."

Continued on Page 2

"We see the Caribbean as a good opportunity for Panamanian products"



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## New state voter fraud units finding few cases from midterms

**Continued from Front** 

The absence of widespread fraud is important because the lies surrounding the 2020 presidential election spread by former President Donald Trump and his allies have penetrated deeply into the Republican Party and eroded trust in elections. In the runup to this year's elections, 45% of Republicans had little to no confidence that votes would be counted tried to pressure state offiaccurately. cials to "find" enough votes

An Associated Press investigation found there was no widespread fraud in Georgia or the five other battleground states where Trump disputed his 2020 loss, and so far there is no indication of that in this year's elections. Certification of the results is going smoothly in most states, with few complaints.

In Georgia, where Trump outcome of an election.

cials to "find" enough votes to overturn his loss, a new law gives the state's top law enforcement agency, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, authority to initiate investigations of alleged election fraud without a request from election officials. The alleged violation would have to be significant enough to change or create doubt about the outcome of an election.



FILE - Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton speaks at a rally in support of President Donald Trump called the "Save America Rally" in Washington on Jan. 6, 2021. Florida, Georgia, Texas and Virginia all started new law enforcement units to investigate voter fraud in this year's elections based on former President Donald Trump's lies about the 2020 presidential contest. So far, those units seem to have produced more headlines than actual cases.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, File)

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That breach, which came to light earlier this year, involved local officials in a county that voted for Trump by nearly 40 percentage points in 2020 and some high-profile supporters of the former president. State Rep. Jasmine Clark, a Democrat who opposed the additional authority for the bureau, said the lack of investigations validates the criticism that the law was unnecessary. But she said just the prospect of a GBI investigation could intimidate people who want to serve as poll workers or take on some other role in the voting process.

"In this situation, there was no actual problem to be solved," Clark said. "This was a solution looking for a problem, and that's never the way that we should legislate."

Florida has been the most visible state, creating its Office of Election Crimes and Security amid much fanfare this year and keeping a pledge that Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis made in 2021 to combat unspecified election fraud.

The office is under the Flor-

ida Department of State. It reviews allegations and then tasks state law enforcement with pursuing violations.

DeSantis this summer announced the election unit had arrested 20 people for illegally voting in the 2020 election, when the state had 14.4 million registered voters. That was the first major election since a state constitutional amendment restored voting rights for felons, except for those convicted of murder or felony sex crimes or those who still owe fines, fees or restitution.

Court records show the 20 people were able to register to vote despite prior felony convictions, apparently leading them to believe they could legally cast ballots. At least part of the confusion stems from language in the voter registration forms that requires applicants to swear they are not a felon — or if they are, that they have had their rights restored. The forms do not inquire specifically about past convictions for murder and felony sexual assault.





## Crowd angered by lockdowns calls for China's Xi to step down

By Dake Kang and **Huizhong Wu Associated Press** 

Shanghai (AP) — Protesters angered by strict antivirus measures called for China's powerful leader to resign, an unprecedented rebuke as authorities in at least eight cities struggled to suppress demonstrations Sunday that represent a rare direct challenge to the ruling Communist Party.

Police using pepper spray drove away demonstrators in Shanghai who called for Xi Jinping to step down and an end to one-party rule, but hours later people rallied again in the same spot. Police again broke up the demonstration, and a reporter saw protesters under arrest being driven away in a bus.

The protests—which began Friday and have spread to cities including the capital, Beijing, and dozens of university campuses — are the most widespread show of opposition to the ruling party in decades.

In a video of the protest in Shanghai verified by The



Protesters hold up blank papers and chant slogans as they march in protest in Beijing, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022.

Associated Press, chants against Xi, the most powerful leader since at least the 1980s, and the Chinese Communist Party sounded loud and clear: "Xi Jinping! Step down! CCP! Step

emerged, China is the only

down!"

major country still trying to stop transmission of CO-VID-19. Its "zero COVID" strategy has suspended access to neighborhoods for weeks at a time. Some cities carry out daily virus tests on millions of residents. Three years after the virus That has kept China's infection numbers lower than

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

those the United States and other major countries, but public acceptance has worn thin. People who are quarantined at home in some areas say they lack food and medicine. The ruling party faced public anger following the deaths of two children whose parents

said anti-virus controls hampered efforts to get medical help.

The current protests erupted after a fire broke out Thursday and killed at least 10 people in an apartment building in the city of Urumqi in the northwest, where some have been locked in their homes for four months. That prompted an outpouring of angry questions online about whether firefighters or people trying to escape were blocked by locked doors or other restrictions.

About 300 demonstrators gathered late Saturday in Shanghai, most of whose 25 million people were confined to their homes for almost two months starting in late March.

On a street named for Urumqi, one group of protesters brought candles, flowers and signs honoring those who died in the blaze. Another group, according to a protester who insisted on anonymity, was more active, shouting slogans and singing the national anthem.

## Newborn among 7 dead in landslide on Italy's Ischia island

By Colleen Barry **Associated Press** 

MILAN (AP) — Search teams have recovered seven dead, including a 3-week-old infant and a pair of young siblings, buried in mud and debris that hurtled down a mountainside and through a densely populated port city on the resort island of Ischia, officials said Sunday.

The Naples prefect confirmed that five people remained missing, and feared buried under the debris of an enormous landslide that struck Casamicciola before dawn on Saturday. Its force collapsed buildings and pushed vehicles into the sea.

The other victims were identified as the infant boy's parents, a 5-yearold girl and her 11-year-old brother, a 31-year-old island resident and a Bulgarian tourist.

"Mud and water tend to fill every space," Luca Cari,

the spokesman for Italian firefighters, told RAI state TV. "Our teams are searching with hope, even if it is very difficult."

"Our biggest hope is that people identified as missing have found refuge with relatives and friends and have not advised of their position," he added.

The risks of landslides remained in the highest part of the town, near where heavy rainfall loosened a chunk of mountainside, requiring search teams to enter by foot, he said. Small bulldozers first focused on clearing roads to allow rescue vehicles to pass, while dive teams were brought in to check cars that had been pushed into the sea. "We are continuing the search with our hearts broken, because among the missing are also minors," Giacomo Pascale, the mayor of the neighboring town of Lacco Ameno, told RAI. Pope Francis expressed his

closeness to the people of Ischia during the traditional Sunday blessing in St. Peter's Square. "I am praying for the victims, for those who are suffering and for those who are involved in the rescue," he said.

The Naples prefect, Claudio Palomba, said on Sunday that 30 homes had been inundated and more than 200 people had been displaced. Five people were injured.

The massive landslide before dawn on Saturday was triggered by exceptional rainfall, and sent a mass of mud and debris hurtling through the port of Casamicciola, collapsing buildings and sweeping vehicles into

One widely circulated video showed a man, covered with mud, clinging to a shutter, chest-deep in muddy water. Another family escaped a home on the mountainside that appeared Sunday to teeter



An aerial view of damaged houses after heavy rainfall triggered landslides that collapsed buildings and left as many as 12 people missing, in Casamicciola, on the southern Italian island of Ischia, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022.

(AP Photo/Salvatore Laporta)

over a precipice, the daily Corriere della Sera report-

The island received 126 mil- Lacco Ameno. es) of rain in six hours, the heaviest rainfall in 20 years, according to officials. Experts said the disaster was exacerbated by building in areas of high risk on the mountainous island, which is also in an seismically active zone. Two people

were killed in 2017 when a 4.0-magnitude quake struck Casamicciola and

limeters (nearly five inch- "There is territory that cannot be occupied. You cannot change the use of a zone where there is water. The course of the water created this disaster," geologist Riccardo Caniparoli told RAI. "There are norms and laws that were not respected."



## Writer who accused Trump of 1990s rape files new lawsuit



E. Jean Carroll poses for a photo, Sunday, June 23, 2019, in New York. Sexual assault victims in New York will get a one-time opportunity to sue their abusers starting Thursday under a new law expected to bring a wave of litigation against prison guards, middle managers, doctors and a few prominent figures including former President Donald Trump.

### By Larry Neumeister Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A writer who accused former President Donald Trump of rape filed an upgraded lawsuit against him Thursday in New York, minutes after a new state law took effect allowing victims of sexual violence to sue over attacks that occurred decades ago.

E. Jean Carroll's lawyer filed the legal papers electronically as the Adult Survivor's Act temporarily lifted the state's usual deadlines for suing over sexual assault. She sought unspecified compensatory and punitive damages for pain and suffering, psychological harms, dignity loss and reputation damage.

Carroll, a longtime advice columnist for Elle magazine, first made the claim in a 2019 book, saying Trump raped her in the dressing room of a Manhattan luxury department store in 1995 or 1996.

Trump responded to the book's allegations by saying it could never have happened because Carroll was "not my type."

His remarks led Carroll to file a defamation lawsuit against him, but that lawsuit has been tied up in appeals courts as judges decide whether he is protected from legal claims for comments made while he was president.

Previously, Carroll had been barred by state law from suing over the alleged rape because too many years had passed since the incident.

New York's new law, however, gives sex crime victims who missed deadlines associated with statute of limitations a second chance to file a lawsuit. A window for such suits will open for one year, after which the usual time limits will be reinstated. At least hundreds of lawsuits are expected, including many filed by women who say they were assault-

ed by co-workers, prison guards, medical providers or others. Alina Habba, a lawyer for Trump, said in an email Thursday: "While I respect and admire individuals that come forward, this case is unfortunately an abuse of the purpose of this Act which creates a terrible precedent and runs the risk of delegitimizing the credibility of actual victims."

In her new claims, Carroll maintains that Trump committed battery "when he forcibly raped and groped her" and that he defamed her when he denied raping her last month.

Trump said in his statement that Carroll "completely made up a story that I met her at the doors of this crowded New York City Department Store and, within minutes, 'swooned' her. It is a Hoax and a lie, just like all the other Hoaxes that have been played on me for the past seven years."

Carroll's new ability to sue Trump for rape could help her sidestep a potentially fatal legal flaw in her original defamation case.

If the courts ultimately hold that Trump's original disparaging comments about Carroll's rape allegation were part of his job duties, as president, she would be barred from suing him over those remarks, as federal employees are protected from defamation claims. No such protection would cover things he did prior to becoming president.

Judge Lewis A. Kaplan, who presides over the defamation lawsuit Carroll filed three years ago, may decide to include the new claims in a trial likely to occur in the spring.

Trump's current lawyers said this week that they do not yet know whether they will represent him against the new allegations.

Carroll's attorney, Roberta Kaplan, who is not related to the judge, said at a court hearing this week that the new claims should not require much additional gathering of evidence. She already put a copy of the new claims in the original case file last week. Trump and Carroll also have already been deposed.

(AP Photo/Craig Ruttle, File)

In a statement regarding the new lawsuit, Kaplan said her client "intends to hold Donald Trump accountable not only for defaming her, but also for sexually assaulting her, which he did years ago in a dressing room at Bergdorf Goodman."

"Thanksgiving Day was the very first day Ms. Carroll could file under New York law so our complaint was filed with the court shortly after midnight," she added

Attorney Michael Madaio, a lawyer for Trump, said at the hearing that the new allegations are significantly different than the original defamation lawsuit and would require "an entirely new set" of evidence gatherina.



### Woman dies on hike in Utah's Zion Park, husband rescued

### Associated Press SPRINGDALE, Utah (AP) —

A woman died and a man was rescued and treated for hypothermia after they were caught in extreme cold weather while hiking in Utah's Zion National Park, officials said.

The married couple were on a permitted, 16-mile (25-kilometer) hike through the park area known as the Narrows, the National Park Service said in a statement Thursday. The woman, 31, and the man, 33, were not identified by the park service. The Zion National Park Search and Rescue Team responded on Wednesday morning after shuttle drivers said visitors reported an injured man and a non-responsive woman in the Narrows, the park service said. The rescue team found the man on a trail being helped by other hikers and transported him to the Zion Emergency Operations Center for treatment. Rescuers moved further up the Narrows and found the woman near the Virgin River. They administered



Zion National Park near Springdale, Utah, is pictured on Sept. 15, 2015. A woman died and a man was rescued and treated for hypothermia after they were caught in extreme cold weather while hiking in Utah's Zion National Park, officials said.

termined the woman had died, the park service said. The couple started their trip through the Narrows on Tuesday. They stopped about 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometers) from the north end of Riverside Walk, a paved

they became "dangerously cold" overnight and experienced symptoms consistent with hypothermia, the park service said.

Early on Wednesday morning, the man sought help and the woman remained in place. Other visitors ad-

(AP Photo/Rick Bowmer, File)

ministered CPR to the woman before the rescue team arrived, the park service said. The Washington County Sheriff's Office, Utah Office of the Medical Examiner and the park service are investigating the cause of the woman's death.

# emergency aid but de- trail. The man told rescuers in place. Other visitors ad- the woman's death. U.S nuclear waste repository begins filling new disposal area



This March 6, 2014, file photo shows the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, the nation's only underground nuclear waste repository, near Carlsbad, New Mexico. On Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, officials at the facility said workers there started using a newly mined disposal area at the repository.

(AP Photo/Susan Montoya Bryan, File)

## By S. MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— Workers at the nation's only underground nuclear waste repository have started using a newly mined disposal area at the underground facility in southern New Mexico.

Officials at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant made the announcement this week, saying the first containers of waste to be entombed in the new area came from Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee — one of the many labs and government sites across the

country that package up waste and ship it to WIPP. Known as Panel 8, the new area consists of seven separate rooms for placing special boxes and barrels packed with lab coats, rubber gloves, tools and debris contaminated with plutonium and other radioactive elements.

Each room measures 33 feet (10 meters) wide, 16 feet (4.9 meters) high and runs the length of a football field minus the end zones.

Carved out of an ancient salt formation about half a mile (0.8 kilometers) deep, the subterranean landfill located outside of Carlsbad received its first shipment in 1999. The idea is that the shifting salt will eventually entomb the radioactive waste left from decades of bomb-making and nuclear weapons research.

In 2014, a fire and separate radiation release forced a nearly three-year closure of

the repository and a costly overhaul of the policies and procedures that govern WIPP and the nation's multibillion-dollar cleanup program for Cold War-era waste.

Operations had to be reduced after the repository reopened because areas of the facility were contaminated and airflow needed for mining and disposal operations was limited.

Now, a multimillion-dollar project is underway to install a new ventilation system, and state regulators are considering a permit change that some critics have said could lead to expanded operations.

Sean Dunagan, president and project manager of Nuclear Waste Partnership, the contractor that manages the repository, said in a statement that operations already have become more efficient with the new panel.



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## Mexican asylum seekers set their sights north — on Canada



In this Aug. 7, 2017 file photo, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer informs a migrant couple of the location of a legal border station, shortly before they illegally crossed from Champlain, N.Y., to Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle, Quebec, using Roxham Road.

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa, File)

### By Zachary Kamel Associated Press

MONTREAL (AP) — Pedro Meraz says living in Colima, Mexico, was like living in a war zone, with shootings, burning cars and dismembered bodies being left outside of schools.

When his wife Rocio Gonzalez, a 28-year-old lawyer who worked with abused women, began receiving death threats from a cartel and the local authorities ignored her pleas for assistance, they knew they had to leave.

"They knew where we lived and what car we drove," said Meraz, 41, who taught at The University of Colima, near the Pacific Coast and about 300 miles (485 kilometers) west of Mexico City. "Feeling that you are going to lose your life, or one of your daughters, I don't mind starting from scratch."

The family is part of a surge in the number of Mexicans who have requested asylum in Canada this year. Due to the relative ease of obtaining asylum in Canada compared to the U.S., visa-free travel between Mexico and Canada, and the threat of violence back home, more than 8,000 Mexican nationals have sought refugee status in 2022. That's almost five times as many as last year and more than twice as

many as in 2019, the last year before the COVID-19 pandemic and the travel restrictions that accompanied it.

The vast majority of them are flying in to Montreal, which has many direct flights to and from Mexico. Among them is Viviana Tapia Gonzalez, a human rights activist and mother of four from Aguascalientes, about 265 miles (425 kilometers) northwest of Mexico City, who said she left Mexico in January after being attacked by the military. She said her work with the families of missing and murdered women and girls made her a target.

"Death threats were constant," she said. "I thought it was the last option I had to be safe. I work for many causes and help many people. I did not want to stop helping, but I must also protect (and) take care of myself."

Tapia Gonzalez has been living in a Montreal women's shelter while awaiting a decision on her asylum claim, which she fears might get rejected.

If her claim is turned down, she wouldn't be alone.

In the first nine months of 2022, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, an independent tribunal that investigates and decides asylum cases, finalized more than 2,700 claims by Mexican asylum seekers. Of those, 1,032 were accepted, 1,256 were rejected; and the remaining 400-plus were either abandoned, withdrawn, or had other outcomes, said Christian Tessier, an IRB spokesperson.

In Canada, claimants must meet the United Nations' definition of a "convention refugee," meaning they are outside of their home countries and have a well-founded fear that they would be persecuted if they returned based on their race, religion, political opinions, nationality or affiliation with a social group. Otherwise, they must prove that they need protection and can't safely return to their home countries without risking torture, cruel or unusual punishment, or death.

Despite the risk of rejection, though, the surge in Mexicans seeking refugee status in Canada persists.

The Welcome Collective, a Montreal-based charitable organization that provides essential goods to new asylum seekers, said half of the group's current clients came from Mexico — a 300% increase compared with earlier this year.

"They had to run away because of violence and other humanitarian reasons. To find a better place for their children," said Flavia Leiva, the group's volunteer and social outreach coordinator.

As for what is causing the increase in applicants, Leiva suggested that social media is playing a role.

"There have been YouTubers and some videos on TikTok talking about how easy it is to come to Canada," she said.

At least one YouTube video that was published 10 months ago and made for a Mexican audience explains the Canadian immigration process in Spanish and has more than 4 million views.

It has been harder for Mexicans to seek asylum in the U.S. since the start of the pandemic. A U.S. public health rule that suspends the right to seek asylum on the grounds of preventing the spread of COVID-19 has fallen disproportionately hard on Mexicans. Title 42 authority has been used to expel migrants more than 2.4 million times since it was introduced in March 2020. Further adding to Canada's allure is that Mexicans

Further adding to Canada's allure is that Mexicans haven't needed a visa to travel to the country since the Canadian government lifted the requirement in late 2016.

Leiva also suggested that more Mexicans might be choosing to come to Canada instead of the United States because they think it's safer

"In the U.S., they are put in cages, the conditions are not as good," Leiva said. "People do not feel safe or protected."

"My wife investigated the existence of international treaties to protect people who are at risk," he said.

He referenced Canadian policies and regulations protecting women and children in addition to the country's comparatively low crime rate.

"The U.S. was never in our minds, since there is a lot of violence ... attacks where many innocent people die," said Meraz. "Canada, statistically, has a very low rate of violence and its quality of life is much better than the USA."

He said his family chose Montreal instead of some other Canadian city because of logistics, though he's having second thoughts.

"If you were to ask me right now if I would choose another place, then maybe," said Meraz, noting that he and his family must now learn French.

Hayet Mohammed, who manages the French language program at Carrefour Solidarité Anjou, a nonprofit that helps newcomers settle in Quebec, said not only is obtaining refugee status easier in Canada, but there are plenty of resources for asylum seekers once they arrive.

"They can work as soon as they have their refugee status and are entitled to (French) courses given by the (Ministry of Immigration in Quebec) which gives them financial assistance and finally, there are many work opportunities, and they are not at risk of finding themselves unemployed," said Mohammed. "Being a newcomer myself with my little family, there is no other country that gives immigrants so many facilities in terms of training, work and child benefits. All these things make people leave their countries of origin and come to make their lives here, thousands of miles away from their families," she said.





### **Eric Dormoi:**

## "We see the Caribbean as a good opportunity for Panamanian products"

ORANJESTAD – Eric Dormio, national director of export promotion for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Panama was in Aruba last week, together with his team and some Panamanian business owners, in order to promote their countries exports for Aruba.

Among the products that they showcased are sea products, agricultural, industrial, and agroindustrial products. "We are always searching for opportunities, and we see that the Caribbean is a good opportunity for Panamanian products", Dormoi pointed out.

He said that they are very competitive with their construction materials, as well as food products – due to the crisis related to the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the war in Ukraine, the world has seen shortages. "We need to fortify ourselves in the region in order to minimize the negative impact, because big countries for example in Asia protect themselves,

thus we need to promote ourselves in the region, with friendly ties as well as commercial to help us with tourism, exports or exchange in the free zone."

They chose Aruba because they consider it as a natural market for Panama, as well as for the tourism sector, in which Aruba's main market is the United States and Panama. Dormoi said that there are products that they can offer as another option as providers.

Last week took place the event Trade Mission Panama to Aruba at the Renaissance Convention Center. As part of an action plan of the Panamanian Government, they implemented integral programs to identify and take advantage of opportunities in the region. Panama as a logistic hub has the capacity to offer products to their Caribbean and Central American neighbors under demanding standards as well as the option to approach their potential clients.



During the event, different Panamanian companies were present with the goal of exploring new markets, organized in different groups. In the food products group some companies produced flour, bottled water, sea products, watermelon and pumpkin. There was another group with companies offering construction materials, soaps and cleaning products, candles, refrigeration and industrial paint (roadmark).

This was the first time that they came to Aruba on such a mission, and it was also the first time they had an event together with these export companies. "This is a great opportunity because the buyers know already which companies are coming, what products they offer and who is going to be available for speaking. We see this mission favorably", Dormoi said.

He added that they had a similar mission in Curaçao in the month of March. He said that was "very successful, we had 200 meetings with 50 buyers, and we think we can do the same in Aruba since they are very close and a lot of distributors operate on both islands. We trust that the mission in Aruba will be very successful", he pointed out.

However, Dormoi said that they need to follow up on conversations with Aruban minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Geoffrey Wever. He mentioned that Aruba does have the need for new options for supply, and they are seeing Panama positively in this regard.

"In Panama we have a lot of experience regarding construction. We are constructing Line 3 of the train, we have experience expanding our Panama Canal, we build bridges and piers, tall buildings, and we can also offer all this to the country's development."

Aside from the eleven companies, others also came, those that import fruit for Europe, the United States. They also import wood, meat and other options, according to Dormoi, which can be very interesting to export.

Regarding prices, Dormoi said that they are advantageous. The local buyer needs to evaluate if it is a good idea for Aruba to bring a product for which there is interest. Dormoi said that in his experience, some buyers in Curação prefer to buy the Panamanian product instead of a European product due to the shorter distances which makes the shipping more affordable. Another advantage they have is that they can personalize products "designed as per the customer's requests. All this needs to be negotiated, but regarding prices, from Panama to Aruba shipping is more affordable and there is very good maritime shipping. All these are things that need to be evaluated. I think prices will be very competitive and Panama is a good option", he said.





# Over a decade in business, Aruba Living Today: Offering the so much needed human touch

NOORD — We are in 2022. It's been a wild ride with Covid-19 and we all are aiming for a change of routine. We simply want to "live" life again. "It is time for living your dream," as the quote says at Aruba Living Today's office. "We are ten plus years in business, and I am proud to say that all our clients stuck with us. We are no part of a big company, we keep it small, personal, and real. Because you are not a number, no sales target either and certainly your name is not commission. Our responsibility is to make your dream come true," says owner Randolph Arends.

#### From human to human

If you have decided to buy a house or rent one for vacation in Aruba and you are looking for that match, the question now is how to click with a person that offers a personal touch? One who pays genuine attention and has sincere interest in what you want? This different approach to real estate is what sets Aruba Living Today apart, and the reason Randolph calls himself a property mediator instead of a real estate broker. "The personal touch is essential to me. I am stepping aside of the image that real estate brokers are only in for the commission. This image does not fit me at all, I am in for my passion, and I can only do this from the heart."

### One stop shopping point

Services offered by Aruba Living Today are House and Land Sales, Rentals, Investments, Property Management, Vacation Rental, Mortgages, Insurances, Maintenance, Assist in Arrangements for Notary and Utilities, Guiding Bureaucracy Process and Assisting in Import of Furniture. Randolph and his business partner Berend Prenger are a fantastic, experienced duo, each of them specialists in the field. Berend is also a certified appraiser within the Dutch Kingdom meaning he does your appraisal report that is accepted by all banks and he delivers within three days. "This definitely speeds up the process of buying," Prenger adds.

### You are welcome to meet in person

Aruba Living Today houses in an authentic Aruban house, welcoming you in a warm ambiance that emphasizes the philosophy of connecting. Candles, Buddha ornaments and a homey setting form the décor for you to sit and talk about your dream house or investment. "My goal was to do real estate in a different way when I established this company June 1st 2009. Not from the perspective of only selling, but to look for the perfect match between dream house and client. My philosophy is: it will only work when all involved are happy and connected by that personal touch."

Aruba Living Today caters for both local and foreign market divided into 40 % local buyers and 60 % foreign buyers. "Our customers come from Holland, Belgium, Norway, Germany, UK, Russia, Latin America, United States and Canada. We are widely covered and thus provable good with different cultures,



also we speak four languages." Besides that, Aruba Living Today is open to every budget, they have listings for all category buyers. As a member of the Aruban Real Estate Association, they are listed also on the website www. arubalisting.com within a group of 20 of the most advanced realtors on the island. Aruba Living Today is featured on House Hunters, social media, Aruba Living Today and of course in Aruba Today's newspaper.

### Aruba Living Today

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## Business License Workshop organized by DEACI and IDEA a success

ORANJESTAD - On November 18, 2022, the Department of Economic Affairs, Commerce and Industry (DEACI), through their unit for Aruban Enterprise Development Initiative (IDEA) and in collaboration with their Business Establishing Unit, organized a Business License workshop.

Speaker Mrs. Mary Baarh, chief of the Business Establishing unit, presented the following:

Definition of a business; How to operate a business legally; What under article 2 of the Business Establishing Law without the required permits is prohibited; Who needs a business permit; Which companies

or institutions are exempt; In addition to the law, what does the new management Guide mean; Three categories that classify as a natural person; Who classifies as a Local natural person; When can a permit be denied; Business permit expenses; What to consider when selecting a commercial name; Services provided by the Business Establishing unit; Demonstration of the website www. deaci.aw on the process of applying for a permit in digital form; How to track the progress of your permit application on the Join Information Portal; What to consider before establishing a business.

sentation, the speaker an-

swered all questions posted (Small & Medium Enterprisby the participants. The workshop was held at the office of the DEACI and

had 38 participants.

IDEA is very satisfied with the workshop topics and positive feedback from the participants. It was a very informative workshop, according to the participants.

During and after the pre- All IDEA's events are free and dedicated to SMEs es) and to everyone interested in starting a business and wanting to be educated more on various f commercial subjects.

Based on the interest in these subjects, IDEA will repeat the workshop in early 2023.

For more information on the workshops and upcoming events, please follow IDEA on Facebook @Idea-Aruba.

**Kingdom Council of Ministers** (RMR) approved the reappointment of Alfonso Boekhoudt as Governor of Aruba



ORANJESTAD - On November 25, 2022, the Kingdom Council of Ministers (RMR) approved the nomination of the Government of Aruba to reappoint Mr. Alfonso Boekhoudt as Governor of Aruba for another term of six years.

The term of the Governor of Aruba, His Excellency rience and knowledge. Aruba, congratulated within the community, pointment and thanked the government asked him for his willingness years. Mr. Boekhoudt Netherlands.

agreed to this request.

The Government of Aruba proposed to the Netherlands the reappointment of Mr. Boekhoudt as Governor of Aruba for another six-year term, from 2023 to January 1, 2029. On Friday, November 25, the RMR approved this proposal.

Alfonso Boekhoudt, ends Prime Minister Evelyn on January 1, 2023. Giv- Wever-Croes, on behalf en Mr. Boekhoudt's expe- of the Government of and respect he enjoys Mr. Boekhoudt on his aphim to remain Governor to serve community of Aruba for another six of the Kingdom of the





### Parke Nacional Arikok: Nature Conservation

The protected area of National Park Arikok was officially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the island's flora and fauna against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok National Park.

#### The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamanota hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft) from which



the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights, adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

meters (577 ft), from which Arikok is also home to Con-

chi, Aruba's most important natural attraction, also know as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is and adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4×4 vehicle.

## Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an active yet challenging agricultural past.

These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these adobe houses have been restored. Park rangers are learning many of the old building techniques in order to preserve this unique Aruban mud-house. At Cunucu Arikok and near Plantation Prins you can find these adobe houses.

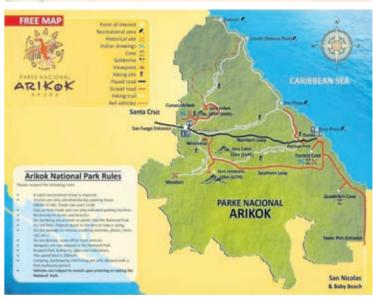
### **Park Management**

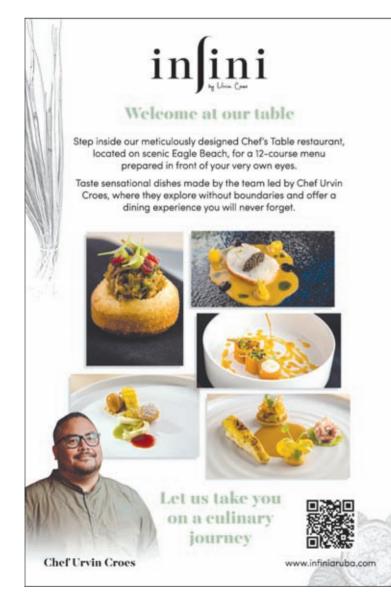
For the management of the park, a dedicated foundation "Fundacion Parke Nacional Arikok" (FPNA), known today as the Aruba National Park Foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety

of marine organisms. With this addition, the area under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba - currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of FPNA. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba, also contains potential shark nursery areas, endanaered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas.











### Aruba Internacional Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition was a success

ORANJESTAD - Last Thursday took place the opening of the Aruba International Rhythmic Gymnastics competition organized by local sports club Perla Gymnastics Aruba. During two days of competition, clubs from different countries took part in the events for each category and level of rhythmic gymnastics.

Adriana Sevilla, coach and founder of Perla Gymnastics Aruba told our reporter that the event in its totality went really well. "The event was beautiful. We had some technical problems, like delays because some organizations didn't have their forms in order. But everything went well, no child was injured, all the children were happy and all received a medal."

A total of six countries took part in the competition. Sevilla explained that in the beginning, seven countries registered to participate, but sadly Ecuador was not able to take part in the competition due to problems with passports and forms.

Sevilla explains that the preparation, not only of the athletes but also the organizations taking part in the competition, began since the start of the year. Last March, Perla Gymnastics moved to their new location where for the first time the children can train on a competition mat for gymnastics, which according to Sevilla, makes the children more confident in themselves.

"They improved because they know the space. We took many months also to train in the gym itself, to prepare the body sufficiently, and the last three



weeks we trained six days per week for three hours each day. The preparation was hard to reach our goal, which was to take part in the competition and have a good performance for the club and for Aruba", she said.

Regarding next year, Sevilla says that there are different international rhythmic gymnastics competitions scheduled, among other places, in Mexico, the US, Paraguay and Venezuela, and Perla Gymnastics is invited to take part. "The next step is to sit together with the parents, as they are the main support for all this. I give them ideas, I prepare the children, but in the economic aspect, they are the ones supporting their kids."

of Sport, he supports sports in its entirety. "When we

Aruban minister of Education and Sport, Mr. Endy Croes was present during the official opening of the Aruba Internacional Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition. Croes told our reporter that as minister

py faces that they enjoy the sport, it fills us with great iov", he said.

He commented that, regarding the financial support, this falls under Lotto pa Deporter and Stichting Subsidie Aruba that gives the financial support. But as Minister of Sport, he is glad that sport is getting international recognition. "And for this sport, they can also count with our support", he

see the children with hap-

Perla Gymnastics representing Aruba won different medals in different categories and levels during the competition. Coach Sevilla expressed that she is beyond happy with the performance of her athletes, and she hopes that next year they can have many more athletes taking part in the Aruba Internacional Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition.

Our reporter also spoke with some of the coaches of the different countries. Coach of the Dominican Republic, Mariam Parra explained that their preparation process was difficult because in their country, the sport of rhythmic aymnastics is not very popular, and for this reason it is not easy to find the adequate space for training. However, despite the difficulties she is happy with her team's performance.

"Six kids came to compete and I am very happy

that all of them received a medal and also went up the podium of the top three during the competition. The competition was very well organized and Aruba is a beautiful island and its people treated us very well at every moment", Parra commented.

Coach of Club Panteras from Bolivia explained that

they had 12 athletes total in different categories and levels, and the results were better than they expected. "Our kids shone in all the levels and we are very happy with the results also. It's the first time we are competing in a cup in the Caribbean and we are really happy that we came and the kids really enjoyed the island", they said.

Claudia Torres Cruz, coach of Oro de Mexico club from Mexico, said that the experience was beautiful because the athletes who came to compete are currently entering the world of international competition, and they enjoyed the experience as a whole. "The main objective was for them to enjoy and support each other. The kids are super happy. It is the first time we come to Aruba and we fell in love with the island. Everyone is very kind and we liked how everyone treated us everywhere", Torres Cruz indicated.□









### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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### AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different,

11-28 CRYPTOQUOTE

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Saturday's Cryptoquote: ANIMALS ARE SUCH AGREEABLE FRIENDS THEY ASK NO QUESTIONS: THEY PASS NO CRITICISMS. GEORGE ELIOT

## Cuba's informal market finds new space on growing internet

By MEGAN JANETSKY **Associated Press** 

HAVANA (AP) - In the Telegram group chat, the messages roll in like waves. "I need liquid ibuprofen acetaminophen, and please," wrote one user. "It's urgent, it's for my 10-month-old baby."

Others offer medicine brought from outside of Cuba, addina, "Write to me in a direct message." Emoji-speckled lists offer antibiotics, pregnancy tests, vitamins, rash creams and more.

The group message, which includes 170,000 people, is just one of many that have flourished in recent years in Cuba alongside an exponential increase in internet usage on the communistgoverned island.

The informal sale of everything from eggs to car parts - the country's socalled black market - is a time-honored practice in crisis-stricken Cuba, where access to the most basic items such as milk, chicken, medicine and cleaning products has always been limited. The market is technically illegal, but the extent of illegality, in official eyes, can vary by the sort of items sold and how they were obtained.

Before the internet, such exchanges took place "through your contacts, your neighbors, your local community," said Ricardo Torres, a Cuban and economics fellow at American University in Washington. "But now, through the internet, you get to reach out to an entire province."

With shortages and economic turmoil at the worst they've been in years, the online marketplace "has exploded," Torres said.

Bustling WhatsApp groups



A youth uses his smartphone as he and a friend walk along the Malecon seawall in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Nov. 25, 2022. Everwidening access to the internet is offering a new opportunity for Cubans looking for hard-to-obtain basic goods: online shopping.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

discuss the informal exchange rate, which provides more pesos per dollar or euro than the official bank rate.

Meanwhile, Cuba's versions of Craigslist — sites such as Revolico, the island's first digital buyingand-selling tool — advertise everything from electric bicycles brought in from other countries to "capitalist apartments" in Havana's wealthy districts.

Many products are sold in pesos, but higher-priced items are often listed in dollars, with payments either handled in cash or through bank transfers outside the country.

While wealthier Cubans or those with families sending money from abroad — can afford more lavish items, many basic items remain unaffordable for people like Leonardo, a stateemployed engineer who asked that his real name not be used because he fears retribution from the government.

Three months ago, Leonardo began buying items such as inhalers, antibiotics and rash creams from friends arriving from other

countries, then reselling them for a small profit online. Government authorities are harshly critical of such "revendedores," or resellers, especially those who buy products in Cuban stores then sell them at a higher price.

In late October, President Miguel Díaz-Canel called for a crackdown on the practice, referring to the revendedores as "criminals, swindlers, riffraff, the lazy and the corrupt."

But Leonardo said he and others like him are just trying to get by.

With the money he's earned from his sales, Leonardo has been able to buy soap and food, as well as antibiotics and vitamins for his elderly parents. The rise of the new digital marketplaces speaks to a specific brand of creative resilience that Cubans have developed during decades of economic turmoil. Much of the crisis is a result of the U.S. government's six-decade trade embargo on the island, but critics say it's also due to government mismanagement of the economy and reluctance to embrace the private sector.

So people on the island tend to be highly resourceful, working with whatever they have available to them — think old cars from the 1950s that still roll through the streets, thanks to mechanics using ingenuity and spare parts to address a shortage of new vehicles.



# Russian rocket kills newborn in repeat attack on small town



Ukrainian firefighters work at a damaged hospital maternity ward in Vilniansk, Zaporizhzhia region, Ukraine, Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2022. A Russian rocket struck the maternity wing of a hospital in eastern Ukraine on Wednesday, killing a newborn boy and critically injuring a doctor.

### By LORI HINNANT Associated Press VILNIANSK, Ukraine (AP)

— A Russian rocket struck the maternity wing of a hospital in eastern Ukraine on Wednesday, killing a newborn boy and critically injuring a doctor. The overnight explosion left the small-town hospital a crumbled mess of bricks, scattering medical supplies across the small compound.

It was the second deadly strike on the small town of Vilniansk in a week, and Mayor Nataliya Usienko said she feared it would not be the last.

"The attack started and the first \$300 rocket hit the road. The second rocket hit this place, the main general hospital, at the maternity wing where people were," she said. "One woman gave birth two days ago. She delivered a boy. Un-

Downtown

fortunately this rocket took the life of this child who lived only two days.."

Six days ago, she said, 11 people died when a Russian rocket hit an apartment building.

"It's very dangerous to be here," Usienko said. "It's 90% certain to be hit again." Municipal workers worked well after sunset to shore up walls at risk of falling, relying on generators for light and to run their power tools.

Nataliya Pullman, a resident passing the shattered hospital, said she was beyond angry.

"I have no words, I have no feelings. I don't know what a normal human should feel. I'm in pain for victims," she said.

Kyrilo, the baby boy killed in the rocket attack, and his mother were supposed to have been discharged

(AP Photo/Kateryna Klochko)ok Wednesday, Usienko said.

The International Rescue Committee's vice-president for emergencies, Bob Kitchen, deplored the attack. "The tragic images of rescuers working at the site of a maternity ward we saw this morning illustrate that women and children continue to pay the highest price for this war," Kitchen said. "No child should

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Weststraat 22 T: 582-7800 E: news@arubatoday.com W: www.arubatoday.com @ @arubatoday be born under a barrage of missile strikes. No child should die buried in rubble remaining from hospitals, where their mothers seek safety and protection."

Russia has targeted hospitals repeatedly since the war began Feb. 24, including a deadly airstrike in March on a maternity ward in the city of Mariupol that killed a woman and her unborn child.



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## Feast and famine for Disney at Thanksgiving box office

## By LINDSEY BAHR Associated Press

(AP) - Thanksaiving often serves up a feast of new family movies at the box office, but the Walt Disney Co.'s animated offering " Strange World "fizzled with audiences out of the gates. The production, which carried a reported \$180 million budget, grossed just \$18.6 million in ticket sales in its first five days and \$11.9 million over the weekend in North American theaters, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The top spot for the holiday corridor, which runs from Wednesday through Sunday, instead went to another Disney movie, Marvel's "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever," which raked in an additional \$64 million over the last five days, \$45.9 million of which was from the weekend. The superhero sequel has reigned over the charts for three weekends now and has grossed \$675.6 million worldwide.

It was a muted weekend despite a buffet of well-reviewed options, including the Korean War aviation drama "Devotion," the nationwide expansion of the Timothée Chalamet cannibal romance "Bones and All" and Steven Spielberg's "The Fabelmans."

"Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery" also opened in 600 theaters nationwide for a weeklong limited run. It marks the first time a Netflix film has played in the nation's major theater chains, including AMC, Regal and Cinemark, but neither Netflix nor the exhibitors provided sales estimates for the film, which won't hit the streaming service until Dec. 23. The first "Knives Out," which was released by Lionsgate, opened to \$41.4 million over Thanksgiving weekend in 2019.

"This was not pre-destined to be a blockbuster Thanksgiving weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, Comscore's senior media analyst. He noted that the marketplace is still being impacted by the pandemic's effects on Hollywood production and release schedules.



This image released by Disney shows a scene from the animated film "Strange World." (Disney via AP)

Disney has historically "owned" the Thanksgiving weekend. Walt Disney Studios and Pixar animated titles account for the top six Thanksgiving openings of all time, including films such as "Frozen," which made \$93.6 million in 2013, "Ralph Breaks the Internet," which pulled in \$84.8 million in 2018 and "Moana," which earned \$82.1 million when it opened in 2016. But it's also been a difficult two years at the company, which last week stunned the industry when it announced that Bob Iger was returning to the company as CEO, replacing his handpicked successor Bob Chapek

"Strange World" opened in 4,714 locations on Wednesday, but it was clear from early preview showings that it was going to be slow going. On Friday, it earned only \$5.2 million. "Wakanda Forever," by contrast, made \$18.2 million on Friday in 4,258 theaters and

has been out for three weeks.

The animated adventure film's debut is one of the bigger bombs in the modern history of the Disney Animation studio, similar to the \$16 million 2002 Thanksgiving opening of "Treasure Planet." "Strange World" was directed by Don Hall and Qui Nguyen and follows a family of explorers and features the voices of Jake Gyllenhaal, Dennis Quaid, Gabrielle Union and Lucy Liu. Reviews have been mostly positive, with a 73% Rotten Tomatoes score.

A lack of new family oriented films over the past several weeks may have resulted in "muted" awareness for "Strange World," according to Dergarabedian.

Third place went to "Devotion," directed by JD Dillard and starring Jonathan Majors and Glenn Powel, which made \$9 million in

its first five days and \$6 million over the weekend from 3,405 locations. The film was made by Black Label Media and distributed by Columbia Pictures in 3,405 locations. The war epic is based on the true story of Jesse Brown, the first Black aviator in the history of the U.S. Navy, who along with his friend Tom Hudner were pivotal in turning the tide in one of the most brutal battles of the Korean War.

"The Menu," the satirical fine-dining thriller starring Ralph Feinnes and Anya Taylor-Joy, landed in fourth in its second weekend, with \$7.4 million over the past five days and \$5.2 million over the weekend. Fifth place went to "Black Adam."

In sixth place for the weekend was Spielberg's "The Fabelmans," which is based on the filmmaker's own family and teenage years. The Universal release expanded to 638 theaters,

where it earned \$3.1 million over five days and \$2.2 million over the weekend.

United Artists Releasing rolled "Bones and All" out to 2,727 theaters, where it made an estimated \$3.6 million over the five-day opening, with \$2.2 million of that coming from the weekend. According to exit polls, some 74% of the audience was between the ages of 18 and 34. The R-rated film from Luca Guadagnino stars Chalamet and Taylor Russell as young cannibals on a road trip through the American Midwest.

In more limited releases, Elegance Bratton's "The Inspection " expanded to 32 screens and earned \$103,033 over five days.

Overall ticket sales are expected to net out around \$125 million. That would be down about 12% from last year, which boasted releases such as "Encanto," which opened to \$40.6 million even with a spiking CO-VID-19 variant. For movie theater owners, it places even more pressure on "Avatar: The Way of Water," to deliver a big windfall to close out the year. It launches on Dec. 16.

"Usually Thanksgiving weekend is all about kids and families going to the theater. This year, it's a heavy mix of films aimed at adults and that's not a recipe for a box office feast in theaters," Dergarabedian said. "But it'll come back in a big way when Avatar opens."



This image released by Disney shows Ethan Clade, voiced by Jaboukie Young-White, left, Meridian Clade, voiced by Gabrielle Union, center, and Searcher Clade, voiced by Jake Gyllenhaal, in a scene from the animated film "Strange World."

(Disney via AP)



## Croatia downs Canada 4-1 at World Cup on Kramaric's 2 goals

#### AL RAYYAN, Qatar (AP) —

A bit of trash talk meant to inspire Canada instead motivated Croatia.

Canada coach John Herdman had tried to boost his team following a loss to Belgium to open the team's first World Cup appearance in 36 years — using colorful language that Croatia took exception to. The 2018 runners-up responded on Sunday with a 4-1 victory over the Canadians, who were eliminated after two matches in Qatar.

"I have to say thank you to the head coach of Canada for the motivation," said Andrej Kramaric, who scored two goals on Sunday.

Alphonso Davies scored Canada's first-ever men's World Cup goal a minute into the match but Marko Livaja and Lovro Majer also scored for Croatia, which lost to France in the final four years ago in Russia and opened with a scoreless draw against Morocco. Luka Modric, the 37-yearold captain who runs the midfield for Croatia, is still looking for his first goal of the tournament in what is likely his final World Cup.

Canada opened the tournament with a 1-0 loss to Belgium. Afterward, Herdman stirred a bit of controversy when he recounted his post-game message to his players, using the first letter of a profanity to describe how they would

beat their next opponents. Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic responded the day before the match and he was still salty about it on Sunday. He took a dig at Herdman, a 47-year old Englishman who coached Canada's team at the 2015 Women's World Cup, after the match.

"He is a high quality professional, but it will take time for him to learn some things," Dalic said.

Croatia and Morocco, which caused another upset at this year's tournament by beating Belgium 2-0 earlier Sunday, both have four points in Group F. Belgium has three points and still has a chance to advance.

"Croatia once again demonstrated power, strength

Croatia's Andrej Kramaric, center, and Borna Sosa, second right, gesture during the World Cup group F soccer match between Croatia and Canada, at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022.

(AP Photo/Martin Meissner)

and quality, and no one was happier about that than me," Dalic said.

Canada earned no points from its first two matches

and can't advance even if it beats Morocco on Thursday in its final match. Croatia and Belgium will play at the same time.



nov 28



Call 525 7777 ext.209

to make a reservation.





## Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort.

Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

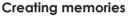
From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

### **Culinary Voyage**

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.



If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000** / **ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494** 

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedge-aruba.com

